

# COLLEGE RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Marie Reddy, Editor

April 2015



Our CRA webpage within the College's website has been updated with recent photo albums. Click on the Faculty/Staff title and scroll down to find us under the Organizations link. We are the best listed last!

## NANCY'S NOTES:

Nancy Buhl, Communications Coordinator

May 1 is the date to renew our annual dues at \$15 in order to continue our membership another year. The 40 members who are currently enrolled in the College's email system and/or are enjoying discounts with a College Retiree ID card need to renew their CRA membership before September 1 in order to keep both benefits.

Now that the College no longer produces a newsletter, you may want to consider getting a College email address to read the blogs sent out by the CRM office. The same forms are required to get both a College email address and/or a College ID card. The ID card (not the email address) does cost a one time fee of \$10 and makes available to you the same discounts the College's current employees enjoy. (Use of the College's Wellness Center is not available for College retirees.) Email buhln@palmbeachstate.edu for the proper forms.

A big thank you to those who have remembered to send me their new email addresses!

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT —Shelley Hill

Spring is a welcome and beautiful season in North Florida. The dogwoods and azaleas are bursting with vibrant colors. The legislative session is in full bloom. The restaurants are at capacity, roads are crowded and the economy is on the up-swing.

The latter part of February, I flew to Charlotte, NC to help celebrate my granddaughter's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. Fleming is in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and my other granddaughter, Sydney, is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Both girls are ranked tennis players. Of course they are awesome but more importantly, they are very respectful and sweet.

While I was enjoying the family, Bill on the other hand, was and still is working 50 to 60 hours a week as Acting Director of The Florida School Boards Association. The former director retired after 40 years of exemplary service. Since Bill wanted only to be an interim director, it is hoped that a permanent one will be hired by June 2015.

Pickleball is gaining more and more popularity. I understand that they have the sport now in Boynton and Delray Beach. If you have the opportunity to play, you will love it as I do.



## MEMBER NEWS

### Joan Young

Our long-time secretary for the College Retiree Association **AND** AFC, writes.....

### MY NEW HOME



Hello to all of you from (sometimes) sunny Southern California, specifically Long Beach. I moved here in early December, stayed with my daughter, Dale, and daughter-in-law, Lena (who live in Long Beach) until New Year's Day, when I moved into Bixby Knolls Towers, an independent living community fourteen stories high.

My one-bedroom apartment is on the 13th floor, and some days I can see some buildings in Los Angeles 50 miles away and the mountains behind LA. One day the sky was so clear at night that I could see the lights of the famous HOLLYWOOD sign! Yesterday, while the sun was shining here in Long Beach, I could see snow on the mountains.

I'm gradually getting used to life here—so different from what it has been for the past fifty years or so that I resided in Palm Beach County—and I'm still trying to find places for some of the belongings I brought with me, but I'm meeting new friends every day at one of the many scheduled optional activities (like Wii bowling or sing-a-

longs or bridge) and gradually beginning to feel at home. This feeling is greatly enhanced by the fact that Dale and Lena often plan some activity on weekends for us all to share, along with Lena's mother (who is in her 70s and lives nearby), such as a Valentine's Day dinner at their house or a weekend in the Morongo Hotel and casino north of here.

I was going to say that I miss South Florida's climate and am slow at adjusting to Southern California's, but with the recent snow storms and climate conditions in the Northwest and across the country into the entire east coast (it was 35 degrees in Key West yesterday!), I'm okay with Long Beach's recent highs of 70-75 and lows of 45-50.

Question: Why do we always say "South Florida" and "Southern California" and never "South California" or "Southern Florida"?

Anyone?

Email: [gramdocj@aol.com](mailto:gramdocj@aol.com)



### Rose Ann Roche

I retired June 30th, 2014 after working in the Practical Nursing and Patient Care Assistant Program at the College for 14 years, and serving as Director for 11 years. I recently was nominated



Bixby Knolls Towers  
3737 Atlantic Ave, Apt. 1307  
Long Beach, CA 90807

for the Palm Beach Medical Society Heroes in Medicine award and am now a finalist in the Education category.

Palm Beach County Medical Society names 2015 'Heroes in Medicine'

Palm Beach County Medical Society Services has announced the 2015 "Heroes in Medicine," recognizing people in the local community who are making a difference in health care.

The Heroes will be honored at the 12th annual Heroes in Medicine awards luncheon on Thursday, April 16, at the Kravis Center's Cohen Pavilion in West Palm Beach, according to a statement from the society.

For the past 12 years, the Heroes in Medicine Award has honored individuals and organizations throughout Palm Beach County that use their skills and resources in the field of health care to provide outstanding services for the people of our local, national, and global communities.

Among the various categories, one 'Hero of the Year' will be awarded, along with four honorary awards.

The 2015 Heroes in Medicine are:

- Lifetime Achievement: Paul Nilloff, MD.
- James Byrnes, MD Humanitarian Award: Ivy Faske, MD.
- Dick Van Eldik, MD Distinguished Service Award: James Howell, MD.
- Making a Difference Award: Health Care District of Palm Beach County.
- Bruce Rendina Professional: Quinnetta Hayes; Davide Carbone; Jean Acevedo; Julia Belkowitz, MD.
- Community Outreach Hero: Cidad Center, Ronald Suowitz, DO; Kayla Cares 4 Kids Inc.
- Healthcare Educator: John Vara, MD; Julie Servoss, MD; **Rose Ann Roche, RN.**
- Healthcare Innovator: Michael Miller; Sara Uhrig, OTR/L, CHT; Cyrus Edward Massoumi.
- Healthcare Provider Non-Physician: Jane Miller; Duyen Le; Lynne Palma; Michelle O'Boyle.
- Physician National/Local: Catherine Lowe, MD; William Kaye, MD; Marsha Fishbane, MD; Michael Black, MD; Marion Webster, MD
- Student: Andrea Palestro; Grace Cenat; Nerea Anaya; Rodeania Peart; Janie Sanchez.

"It's so rewarding to recognize these amazing people and the posi-

tive impact they are having on our community, especially when so much of the news these days is negative," Greg Quattlebaum, who is cochairing the event with Dr. Christine Brooks, said in the statement. " 'Heroes in Medicine' is a chance to tell the inspiring stories of these real-life heroes and let them know they are appreciated."

Dr. Alan Pillersdorf and Rhona Pillersdorf are the honorary hosts for this year's luncheon, and Rendina Companies is the Grand Benefactor. Liz Quirantes of CBS News 12 will serve as mistress of ceremonies. Palm Beach Illustrated and Trust- Bridge are featured sponsors.

"Road Scholars." Thus, our exotic travels continue, this time to one of my favorite cities in the USA.

Dan

## Patricia Shavitz

I have been enjoying retirement from full-time teaching since 2004. I did teach as an adjunct at the Palm Beach Gardens Campus for a few years. I do miss the students and some of my former colleagues. I have done research and published two articles for the Palm Beach County Historical Society. Currently I am involved in research in forensic anthropology with a colleague in Turkey. I love Istanbul, and will return to this dynamic city in a few months.

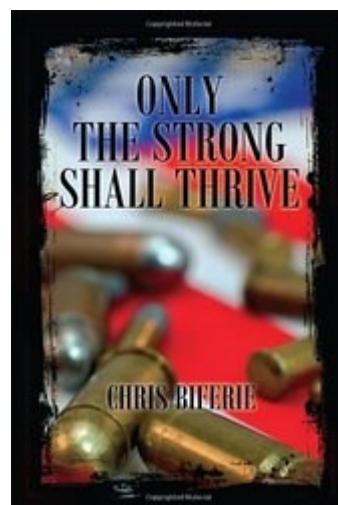
## Dan O'Connell



Hello Marie: Attached is a picture of Ruth and me celebrating Mardi Gras in New Orleans with other

## Chris Biferie

Chris has had a book published, "Only the Strong Shall Thrive" Amazon & Barnes & Noble



## MEMBER NEWS

### Sylvia MacDonald

"Retired July 1st; busier than I've ever been!"

### Rosalie Morrissey



Many years ago Rosalie donated her collection of shells that she had collected on visits to Florida beaches and others through the years. She donated them to the Library but has recently found out that the special cabinet full of various shells is now located in The Science building NA 116 Biology lab. Her specially designed cabinet had been refinished and the entire collection is now housed in the Biology Lab. Rosalie was happy the way they refinished the cabinet and hope the students have more time to examined the shells in the Lab.

### Helen Darcey



The daughters of Helen Darcey established an endowed scholarship to benefit Communications students this past year. Helen, retired in the late 90's was a long-time instructor in the Communications Dept. This is the information about the scholarship that is posted on the Foundation Scholarship website.

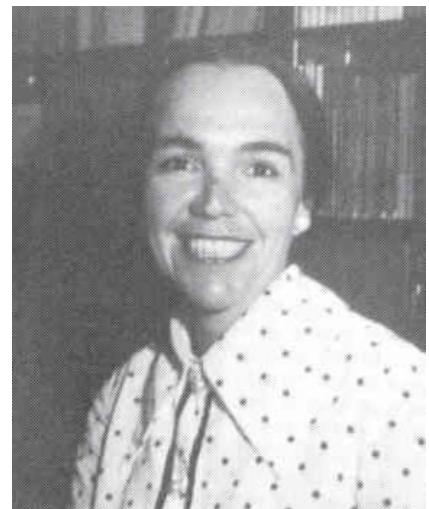
#### Helen Bokas Darcey Endowed Scholarship

With our father, we established this endowment to honor our mother, Helen Darcey, commemorating her commitment to teaching and affection for this university. An instructor in the Communications Department, her main specialty was teaching reading. Although reading is an ability most take for granted, imagine tackling your college courses without a command of this basic skill! For years, Mom encouraged students and taught them tools to improve proficiency. Consider the benefits: comprehension makes books more enjoyable, builds confidence and expands life's opportunities.

Mom's style, grace and pretty smile made her a favorite. One colleague told us "When I first got to know Helen, she made me feel like a special friend. Later, I

realized she made everyone feel that way." Mom's success was evident: One year, she was voted to serve as a representative to the national "Teacher of the Year" convention. She kept a box of cards, drawings and trinkets from grateful students. We got a kick when, years after her 1995 retirement, people continued to stop her to say, "Remember me, Mrs. Darcey?" and "You really helped me". This is her proud legacy. Thanks, Mom.

This scholarship is available to 2nd year (sophomore) students majoring in Communications, English or Reading. The student must be enrolled 6 or more credits and have a GPA of 3.3 or higher. Student must be paying in-state tuition. Financial need is considered. To be eligible, applicants must complete a (FAFSA).



## MEMBER NEWS

### Nancy Buhl



Nancy Buhl, her daughter Sheryl Masi and her son Austin met Nancy's great niece Lisa Kilpatrick at Disney World. Lisa, a senior at the Schuykill Valley High School in Pa., traveled to DW to perform in the Magic Kingdom's Main Street Parade and with her school's Concert Orchestra on the Melody Gardens stage at Epcot. It was Lisa's first trip to DW and her first trip to Florida since she was just a toddler. Her first question, "Is it always this hot?".

### New Members since last newsletter:

Dr. Patricia Miller-Shavitz

Ms. Rose-Ann Roche

Ms. Diana Ponce

Ms. Sylvia MacDonald

Ms. Carmen M. Panai

Ms. Carolyn Copeland

Mr. Robert Goldstein

(Editors Note to Diana Ponce:  
"Go Red Sox!!!!")

### Joanne Kelly

Jim and I are coping ( if that is possible) with the death of our 45 year old son, Jimmy, over a year ago, August 27th, 2013. He died of a brain hemorrhage after a fall and being on Coumadin. In the nineties he worked at PBSC in the English Lab and taught as an adjunct. At his death he was a science writer for University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas and in graduate school at Texas A&M, He had published several in depth articles on medical discoveries winning multiple awards. He had the ability to translate complex scientific content into layman's terms, and was able to assimilate large amounts of information, generating original ideas and expressing them clearly in writing. He was a naturalist, journalist, writer and scholar, had travelled to Scotland, Spain, Peru, Mexico, Argentina and the Bahamas, hiked all over the West but loved Florida, especially the natural elements along the Intracoastal. He loved people and their stories and his way of describing human events with a sense of humor and insight will be sorely missed. As well as just his presence. We, with our two sons, Michael and Joel and wife Lizz and new granddaughter continue to celebrate his life to the best of our ability.

### In Memory

Mary Frances "Faye" Ledbetter passed away Monday, Sept. 29, at the age of 89.

Kathleen M. Asher, who died Jan. 6 at the age of 82

Palm Beach State College retiree Dianne M. Kelm died April 1 at JFK Hospital

Former Associate Dean Diane T. Bifano, 58, who passed away Saturday, April 4 following an extended illness

Retired Facilities staff member Dan Krulcik passed away March 20 at age 64

Arthur E. Schneider, who died Jan. 24 at his home in Frankfort, Mich., at age 75

Former Palm Beach Junior College instructor Aileen McQuagge, 94, who died Saturday, Nov. 22

Linda A. Pickren, a retired staff member who worked at Palm Beach State College for more than 33 years, passed away March 19 at age 62

Rest in Peace, Linda Pickren

## DR. DENNIS GALLON RETIRING!



Dr. Dennis P Gallon, who has been the President of Palm Beach State College, since 1997, is set to retire on June 30, 2015. "The decision of retiring was a very difficult decision to make" said Gallon, "one of the biggest contributing factor of that decision was family."

The Palm Beach State College President justified that being the president of an institution has made him feel like a very fortunate individual, but that it had taken him away from many things and family was one of them.

Dr. Gallon, who served as President for 17 years, accentuated that he felt he'd been part of something extraordinary during his term. Driven by the mission of this institution, lot of changes took place during Dr. Gallon's term.

Palm Beach Community College became Palm Beach State Col-

lege. PBSC, became the seventh largest of 28 colleges comprising the Florida College System, and started offering its first Bachelor's degree in fall 2009. The institution went from offering A.A degrees to offering certifications, Public Safety Programs, Nursing Programs and much more, attracting thousands of students annually.

"He's always maintained our mission, for opening access for students" expressed Associate Dean of Public Safety, Barbara M. Cipriano and added, "He was always concerned about the student's accessibility and affordability." The President was praised for his school activity involvement and Dr. Dennis P. Gallon, the fourth president of Palm Beach State College, shared that he is "most apprehensive about the anxiety of not working with students in the future." Dr. Gallon, who completed the requirements for his Ph.D. at the University of Florida, shared that he was "fortunate to have had the ability to work with a great team over the years."

With so many accomplishments attained to develop this institution, Dr. Gallon explained that he wanted "to be remembered for was that he was committed to make this institution the best that it could be for the students."

Dr. Gallon also supported FACC/AFC activities during his term as President, supporting AND participating in the College's ten year run painting homes for Make a Difference Day with Paint Your Heart Out Palm Beach County. Thank you Dr. Gallon!



## HOLIDAY PARTY PICS

This year's Holiday Party was again held at the Atlantis Country Club where we were served a delicious buffet lunch. Please make plans to attend the next Holiday Luncheon. It is a great way to meet with friends and colleagues that you may not have seen in quite a while. Date to be announced.



**PLEASE SEND US NEWS ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE DOING!  
EMAIL MARIE-REDDY@COMCAST.NET !!!**

*If you know of a member who is ill or who has died or who has suffered some kind of setback, contact our Good Will Ambassador*

**JOAL SOLAAS**

at **561-790-7948** or e-mail  
[joalandray@gmail.com](mailto:joalandray@gmail.com)

*If you have a change in address or phone number (or if you know the address of a former member who has moved), please contact:*

**NANCY BUHL**

**Home: (561) 793-3802**  
[buhln@palmbeachstate.edu](mailto:buhln@palmbeachstate.edu)

*Don't forget e-mail addresses and cell phones!*



*If you have an interesting idea for a speaker or program for one of our meetings, please contact:*

**VIRGINIA BROOKS**

**(561) 622-0264**

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[brooksv@palmbeachstate.edu](mailto:brooksv@palmbeachstate.edu)

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*If you have a suggestion for a social event, please contact:*

**JANETTE SANDERS**

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**Home: (561) 964-0304**

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[smjb34@att.net](mailto:smjb34@att.net)



**DON'T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR:**

**FRIDAY, MAY 8**  
**COLLEGE RETIREE**  
**MEETING AND ELECTION**  
**OF OFFICERS**  
**PLEASE ATTEND!**

**OFFICERS 2013-2015**

**President** Shelley Hill

**Vice President** Marie Reddy

**Treasurer** Mary Taylor

**Secretary**

**Communications Coordinator**  
Nancy Buhl

**Good Will Ambassador** Joal Solaas

**The College Retirees Spring Meeting And Luncheon**  
**Will be held at 11:30 AM in the Conference Room (PSD 108) of the Public Safety**  
**Department—at the back of the campus near Facilities**

**Menu**

Tossed Garden Salad with Assorted Dressings

Chicken Piccata Cutlets

Rice Pilaf

Green Beans Almondine

Assorted Dinner Rolls with Butter

Home-Style Fudge Brownies

Unsweetened Iced Tea with Sugar, Artificial Sweetener & Fresh Lemons  
Lemonade

**Special Guest Dr. Dennis Gallon**

**A RESERVATION FOR THIS LUNCHEON IS REQUIRED.**  
**PLEASE RSVP TO Nancy Buhl at [buhln@palmbeachstate.edu](mailto:buhln@palmbeachstate.edu)**  
**or phone Nancy at 561-793-3802**